



HR0699

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HOUSE RESOLUTION

2           WHEREAS, The members of the Illinois House of  
3 Representatives are saddened to learn of the death of John L.  
4 Watson Sr., who passed away on August 30, 2009; and

5           WHEREAS, John Watson Sr. was born on May 15, 1948, in  
6 Rondo, Arkansas; he was the son of Annie Bell and Wille B.  
7 Watson; and

8           WHEREAS, John Watson Sr. grew up in Rondo, Arkansas, where  
9 he worked alongside his parents in the fields; he attended Anna  
10 Strong High School, where he played baseball, basketball, and  
11 football; after graduating high school in 1965, he attended the  
12 HBCU Arkansas AM&N (now the University of Arkansas at Pine  
13 Bluff); in 1969, he moved to Chicago, where he married his  
14 childhood sweetheart, Bobbie J. Watson; and

15           WHEREAS, John Watson Sr. tried to start several businesses  
16 during his lifetime, including a trucking company; as his  
17 family grew, however, he decided that, as a family man, he  
18 needed a more settled profession; he then began working for  
19 Reynolds Aluminum (now Alcoa), where he worked for over 30  
20 years; during his tenure at Reynolds, he was well known as a  
21 hard worker and ascended the ranks, progressing from a laborer  
22 to a supervisor; and

1           WHEREAS, John Watson Sr. is survived by his wife of almost  
2   40 years, Bobbie Watson; his children, Dana Watson Carroll  
3   (William), Tammi Watson Eastlin (Maurice), Linda Watson Edgar  
4   (Anthony), and John L. Watson Jr.; and his grandchildren, John  
5   L. Watson III, LaShaundria Z. Watson, Mia F. Eastlin, Juwan L.  
6   Watson, and Avery Claire T. Carroll; and

7           WHEREAS, John Watson Sr. will be remembered by all who knew  
8   and loved him as a funny and wise man who loved his family most  
9   and his blues next; therefore, be it

10          RESOLVED, BY THE HOUSE OF REPRESENTATIVES OF THE  
11   NINETY-SIXTH GENERAL ASSEMBLY OF THE STATE OF ILLINOIS, that we  
12   mourn, along with s family and friends, the passing of John L.  
13   Watson Sr.; and be it further

14          RESOLVED, That a suitable copy of this resolution be  
15   presented to the family of John Watson Sr. as an expression of  
16   our sympathy.